

11/2022 - Decade of the Ocean

The Conference:

- Considering that the Ocean is being threatened as never before by pollution, climate change and predatory fishing, causing the loss and general degradation of marine ecosystems and biodiversity,
- Considering that the next few years will be crucial to guarantee a sustainable future for the Ocean and the multiple benefits it brings to the planet, and that in order to achieve that purpose we must change the way we interact with the Ocean (which includes the conservation and recovery of the main marine ecosystems, as well as the mangrove regions and coral reefs, the reduction of marine pollution levels, the sustainable management of fishing, among others),
- Considering that the Decade of the Ocean (2021 - 2030) instituted by the United Nations (UN) on December 5, 2017 (Resolution 72/73) is a global movement led by the United Nations Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO), which brings together scientists, governments, universities, companies and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), to improve society's relations with the Ocean and thus contribute to the fulfillment of the UN 2030 Agenda, more specifically with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 (Life Below Water),
- Considering that the World Organization of the Scout Movement is a key partner of UN Environment through the "*Tide Turner Plastic Challenge*" program as one of the global programs of Earth Tribe,
- Considering that education (formal and non-formal) is essential to achieve this goal; hence the importance of involving the Scout Movement, which has since its inception a firm commitment to protecting the environment (Article 6 of the Scout Law), reinforced over the years by numerous resolutions of the World Scout Conference (e.g.: Resolutions 1971-12, 1988-06, 1990-13, 1993-11, 2005-18, 2008-22 and 2021-08), which also highlighted the importance of Scouting's involvement with the SDGs (Resolution 2017-08).

Agrees to:

- Strongly urge all Member Organizations in the Region, whether or not they have access to the Ocean, to play an active role in the Decade of the Ocean,
- Encourage Member Organizations of the Region to participate in partnerships with other stakeholders and sectors, to support the implementation of the Decade of the Ocean,
- Request the Interamerican Scout Committee and the World Scout Bureau - Interamerica Support Centre to develop the necessary tools to support the Member Organizations of the Region in this area of their work,
- Encourage the Member Organizations of the Region to annually celebrate World Ocean Day (June 8) with activities related to the conservation of the Ocean and awareness of its importance,
- Motivate the Member Organizations of the Region to incorporate educational materials of all kinds about the Ocean in their Youth Programme and to train adults in their use.